Colonel Lowell E. Graham, commander/conductor

**2001**March-April

## The 2001 Colonel George S. Howard Young Artist Competition

he USAF Band is pleased to announce the winner of this year's Colonel George S. Howard Young Artist Competition. He is flutist David Ross of North Mankato, Minnesota. David is a junior studying at the Minnesota Arts High School in Golden Valley. He will perform Griffes' *Poem for Flute* with the Concert Band on the March 18 Guest Artist Series concert at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington.

We received audition tapes for the preliminary round of the competition from all over the country. The judging committees for this round were made up of Concert Band performers on every instrument represented in the competition. Judges' evaluation forms were returned to all entrants, giving them a rare opportunity for feedback. The finals were held on January 12, in the Concert Band studio. Other finalists were flutist Erin



David Ross

Crowley of Alexandria, Virginia, clarinetist Nick Gallas of Columbia, Maryland, and alto saxophonist Doug O'Connor of Potomac, Maryland. This year's competition was open only to woodwinds. Next year's competition will be open only to brass and percussion. These categories alternate annually.

The competition is named for the second conductor of The USAF Band, honoring his contribution to young musicians and to the United States Air Force. This competition, begun in 1994, is open to band instrumentalists in grades 10-12. Applicants must submit a videotape performance of a required piece. Marimbist Nathan Lassell of Arlington, Virginia, won the 2000 competition. Other past winners are clarinetist Mark Dubac of Columbia, Maryland, alto saxophonist Timothy Michael Dearmin, from San Antonio, Texas, flutist Anna Wessler from Yorktown, Virginia, alto saxophonist Ashu Kejariwal from The Woodlands, Texas, flutist Claire Chase from San Diego, California, and flutist Jessica Salt from Vienna, Virginia.

Repertoire and dates for the competition are announced each April. Information about this competition appears on the Band's home page and in many national music publications. Complete information is also available by contacting TSgt George Stoffan at (202) 404-8363 or <a href="mailto:george-stoffan@bolling.af.mil">george-stoffan@bolling.af.mil</a>.

-MSgt Lucille J. Snell

The 35th Annual Guest Artist Series Continues...See page 6 for more.